

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, the undersigned attorney, Eric D. Cohen and applicants' representative, now also attorney of record, John Coul, would like to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended during the interview held on July 21, 2003 with John Coul. The interview was very productive.

Reconsideration and further examination of the subject patent application in light of the present Amendment and Remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1-72 are currently pending in the application and claims 1-39 are allowed. Claims 40-42, 44-48, 50, 51, 57, 58, 62, 66, and 68-72 stand rejected, claims 43, 49, 52-56, 59-61, 63-65, and 67 are objected to, and claims 71 and 72 have been canceled by this amendment.

Rejection of the Claims

Independent claim 40 was previously rejected as being anticipated by Furukawa. In view of claim 40 as previously and presently amended, applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants continue to contend that the device in Furukawa does not grip a line, does not have distal ends which engage a common opening, and does not have a stacking provision in the region where the arms are joined. Further, with respect to the present amendment, the links disclosed in the Furukawa references do not connect in a piggyback relation so as to support a second line adjacent the first line, as is now recited in claim 40.

These features are not taught or disclosed in the Furukawa reference. They are completely missing from the reference. Because at least one significant element of applicants' claimed invention is missing from the chain cable hanger of Furukawa, Furukawa cannot anticipate applicants' claimed invention. Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 40 and claims depending therefrom

are allowable over Furukawa.

Claims 45, 51, 66, 68, 69, and 70 have also been amended.

Closing Remarks

Applicants note the Examiner's statement that claims 1-39 are allowable over the art of record. For the foregoing reasons, applicants submit that the subject application is in condition for allowance and earnestly solicits an early Notice of Allowance. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee which may be required for this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, including but not limited to the issue fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. Should no proper amount be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal, or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 23-0920. A duplicate copy of this sheet(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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